SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Fifty-Fourth Commencement Ceremony

May 17, 2025

Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center or the Performing Arts

University of California, Davis

Founded in 1908 as the University Farm, the University of California, Davis, has become one of the country's top teaching and research universities. Building on its historical strengths in the agricultural and biological sciences, UC Davis has developed comparable stature in the arts, social sciences, humanities, environmental sciences, engineering and physical sciences. It excels, as well, in the professional areas of law, education, medicine, nursing, veterinary medicine and management.

The campus is dedicated to teaching students to be independent thinkers and lifelong learners, to pursuing research that advances our knowledge of the world and to serving the public by sharing and applying those discoveries. UC Davis is committed to effective engagement with the many communities it serves—in the state, the nation and the world.

The School of Medicine

The UC Davis School of Medicine accomplishes its three fundamental missions— teaching, research and public service—through the collective contributions of more than 710 regular faculty (including physicians and basic scientists), 2,200 volunteer clinical faculty and 1,100 staff personnel.

Founding dean, C. John Tupper, M.D., was appointed in 1966. The inaugural class was admitted in 1968 and graduated in 1972. The Medical Sciences I Complex, the school's first permanent facility for instruction, research and administration, was completed in 1977. Four years earlier, the university acquired the Sacramento County Hospital as its primary clinical facility and renamed it the UC Davis Medical Center. Major renovations and expansions of the hospital and clinics were undertaken to create a modern academic medical center.

In a typical year, the school graduates 120 new physicians, some of whom also earn Ph.D. degrees in one of our basic science departments. Our M.D. graduates now number 5,049.

Academic Symbols

The academic dress worn by those in the procession includes the cap, gown and hood and indicates the level of the highest degree obtained by the wearer, as well as the nature of the degree and the institution that granted it. The gowns of holders of bachelor's degrees are closed in the front and have full-length sleeves. Master's degree gowns are open in the front, and have pointed, elbow-length sleeves. The doctor's degree level is indicated by a gown having velvet facings at the front and three velvet bars across each of the full bell–shaped sleeves. Hoods are faced with velvet in the color that represents the field of study in which the degree is awarded and are lined with satin in the colors of the university awarding the degree. The M.D. degree is indicated by green velvet and, for the University of California, a blue and gold satin lining. Doctoral level hoods are in the full shape with a rounded base and are four feet in length. Caps are worn by holders of all degrees and their design varies slightly, depending on the degree–granting university. Holders of doctoral degrees may wear a gold tassel and a tam.

Among the faculty will be several with gowns of very different characteristics. These usually indicate a degree from a non-American university, a member of one of the American Specialty Colleges (the American College of Surgeons or the American College of Physicians), or a unique gown designed for and approved by a specific university.

The School of Medicine banner is green in keeping with the academic color of medicine.

Program

OPENING

Tonya Fancher, M.D.
Associate Dean, Workforce Innovation and Education Quality Improvement

ACADEMIC PROCESSION AND ENTRY OF CANDIDATES

Alexander Borowsky, M.D.
Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
FEC Member

WELCOME REMARKS

Mark Servis, M.D.
Vice Dean for Medical Education

DEAN'S REMARKS

Susan Murin, M.D.
Dean, UC Davis School of Medicine

STUDENT SPEAKER FOR THE CLASS OF 2025

Chelsea Nash
Candidate for the degree of Doctor of Medicine
"Revolutionaries"

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Diana Ramos, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A
California Surgeon General

IN MEMORIAM

Sharad Jain, M.D.
Associate Dean, Office of Medical Education

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Tonya Fancher, M.D.
Associate Dean, Workforce Innovation and Education Quality Improvement
Presenting the
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE MEDAL
GOLDEN GOBLET AWARD

PRESENTATION OF THE CLASS OF 2025

Susan Murin, M.D.
Dean, UC Davis School of Medicine

CONFERRING THE DEGREES

Gary S. May, Ph.D.
Chancellor

ANNOUNCING NAMES OF NEW PHYSICIANS

Kristin Olson, M.D.
Associate Dean of Curriculum and Medical Education

Sean Muñoz, M.D., FAAP
Interim Associate Dean, Office of Student & Resident Diversity

PLACING OF ACADEMIC HOODS

Sharad Jain, M.D.
Associate Dean for Students

THE UC DAVIS PHYSICIAN'S OATH

Mark Henderson, M.D.
Associate Dean of Admissions

RECESSIONAL

The Stage Party, the Class of 2025, the Faculty

School of Medicine
Degree of Doctor of Medicine
Conferred Upon

HANNA ABUHAY
B.S., University of California, Santa Cruz
Internal Medicine
New York Presbyterian Weill Cornell
Medical Center
New York, NY

ELEANOR ADAMS
B.S., B.A., Portland State University
Family Medicine
University of Oklahoma COM
Tulsa, OK

JAVIER AGUAYO
B.A., Stanford University
Pediatrics
Children's Hospital-Oakland
Oakland, CA

EMILIE ALLAERT
B.S., University of California, Davis
Internal Medicine
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B.S., University of California, Riverside
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University of California, Davis Medical Center
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ALEJANDRO ALVAREZ
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Pathology
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Sacramento, CA

OMAR ALZAYAT
B.A., University of California, Berkeley
Columbia University
Transitional
Southwest Healthcare Medical Ed. Consortium
Temecula, CA
Anesthesiology
University of California, San Diego
Medical Center
San Diego, CA

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University of North Carolina Hospitals
Chapel Hill, NC
Ophthalmology
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC

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General Surgery
University of California, Los Angeles
Harbor Medical Center
Torrance, CA

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University of California, Davis Travis AFB
Travis AFB, CA

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Harbor Medical Center
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ERIKA BOLES
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M.S., University of Southern California
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Advocate Health Care
Oak Lawn, IL
Radiology-Diagnostic
University of Chicago Medical Center
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Swedish Medical Center
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New York Presbyterian
Queens, NY

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Ph.D., University of Southern California

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BENJAMIN YANG
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Oregon Health & Science University
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Class Officers

Class Co-Presidents
FERHEEN ABBASI
NATALIE PEARLMAN

Class Treasurer
OMAR ALZAYAT

Class Historians
SEVET ASSATORMASIHKHAH
CAROLINE LIU

Social Chairpersons
SEVET ASSATORMASIHKHAH
BROCK BURNETT
RACHEL CHAN
VISTA FARKHONDEH
STEVEN GARCIA
MARY HAKOBYAN
ELIAS JBEILY
MADDY LARSON
ANERI PATEL
OM PATEL
BRANDON SWENSON
KELLY WELDON
BRANDON WONG

Wellness Representatives
ALEJANDRO ALVAREZ
SHRUTI ARORA
MASANI COLEY
SERENA LY

Committee on Education Policy
ANDY KELLY
BRANDON KELLY

Committee on Student Promotions
SKYLER PEARSON
JESSICA TANG

Gold Humanism Honor Society
Class Of 2025

HANNA ABUHAY

ELEANOR ADAMS

JAVIER AGUAYO

SIVOT ASSATORMASIKHKAH

RHODALENE BENJAMIN-ADDY

SHANIA BENNETT

RYOTARO FUKUDA

OLIVER GUEVARRA

MANUELA HERRERA

JT HUYNH

ANDY KELLY

SERENA LY

NOREEN MANSURI

AYE CHAN MOE

CHELSEA NASH

CARLY ROBINSON

JULIO RAMÍREZ SILIÉZAR

NITHYA SIVAKUMAR

CADY SMITH

Members of the Gold Humanism Honor Society wear a white and gold honor cord.

The School of Medicine Medal

The School of Medicine Medal is presented to the student who best displays the qualities of leadership, scholarship and respect for human life that are so necessary to fulfill a physician's pledge to be of service to humanity.

The Golden Goblet Award

The Golden Goblet is a special award, indeed. The Goblet symbolizes the Davis campus and the School of Medicine at UC Davis, which aspire to teach physicians of excellence. It symbolizes the deep roots of this campus in the soil of California, the study of the fruits of the earth, and the application of science and inquiry to the betterment of humankind. It is the cup of joy and celebration of deep fulfillment in service to others. It is the cup of commitment, which seeks sometimes to heal, often to relieve and always to comfort. It is awarded each year to that member of the graduating class who, in the opinion of the class, best and most consistently demonstrates this joy and commitment. The recipient is chosen by secret ballot of the members of the graduating class. The School of Medicine, in cognizance of the unbroken lineage of physicians from ancient days to the future, asks the recipient of the Golden Goblet to return it to us when he or she no longer practices medicine, for presentation to yet another young physician.

Class of 2025 Awards

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE MEDAL
Awarded at Commencement

GOLDEN GOBLET AWARD
Awarded at Commencement

LOREN D. CARLSON ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP RESEARCH AWARD
Soroush Ershadifar

ELI BENJAMINI ENDOWED FUND FOR BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
Matthew Lara

OFFICE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Oliver Guevarra

RENA AND GABRIEL SMILKSTEIN HUMANITARIAN AWARD
Natalie Pearlman
Rebekah Smith

J.T. SIMON LIE, MD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Mary Hakobyan

MERCK MANUAL AWARDS
Rachel Chan
Gregory Disse
Julia Persky
Anna Sadovnikova

DAVID M. IGDALOFF, MD & MICHAEL A. IGDALOFF
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Lien Nguyen

EDWARD J. HURLEY, MD SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Maddy Larson

HEALING ARTS AWARD
Shania Bennett

HELEN MCCONNELL PALTHE FELLOWSHIP AWARD
Cady Smith

JAMES FRANKLIN MCMANUS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Shreya Kumar

THE JOHNSON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Navpreet Gill

MANSOOR ALLY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Carlo Juarez Fuentes

Department Awards

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN
ANESTHESIOLOGY & PAIN MEDICINE
Cody Walters

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN
BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR MEDICINE
Carly Robinson

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE
Lina Du

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN DERMATOLOGY
Kristiana Jordan

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN EMERGENCY MEDICINE
Anna Wiese

FAMILY & COMMUNITY MEDICINE AWARD IN EXCELLENCE
Kelsi Camacho

ERNEST M. GOLD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN INTERNAL MEDICINE
Oliver Guevarra
Mary Hakobyan
Erika Richter

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN NEUROLOGY
Quinn Fujii

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN OPHTHALMOLOGY & VISION SCIENCE
Arina Nisanova

PAUL R. LIPSCOMB AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY
Elias Jbeily
Micaela White

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY
Oscar Velazquez-Castro

ROBERT E. STOWELL, M.D., PH.D. AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PATHOLOGY
Alejandro Alvarez

CRYSTIE HALSTED AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PEDIATRICS
Javier Aguyao

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN NEONATOLOGY
Brian Sharon
Nithya Sivakumar

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN
PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION
Lily Justine

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PSYCHIATRY
Jeffrey Duong
Cady Smith

RUSSELL A. MCFALL, MD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RADIOLOGY
Lyanne Lu

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN SURGERY
Julia Persky

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT IN UROLOGY
Serena Ly

ACE-PC OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT AWARD
Alaa'I Alshabrawy

REACH OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT AWARD
Maria Munguia Ochoa

RURAL PRIME OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT AWARD
Kelsi Camacho

TEACH-MS OUTSTANDING MEDICAL STUDENT AWARD
Andy Kelly

THE DOCTORING AWARD
Alexander Baltodano
Kelsi Camacho
Brandon Drws
Elizabeth Helmke

AMERICAN MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION GLASGOW-RUBIN
CITATION FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
Rachel Chan
Quinn Fujii
Navpreet Gill
Mary Hakobyan
Elizabeth Helmke
Shreya Kumar
Willow Limbach
Katherine Liu
Lyanne Lu
Alice Moylan
Anna Sadovnikova
Anna Wiese

The UC Davis Physician's Oath

Now being admitted to the high calling of the physician, I solemnly pledge to consecrate my life to the care of the sick, the promotion of the health and the service of humanity.

I will practice medicine with conscience and in truth. The health and dignity of my patients will be my first concern. I will hold in confidence all that my patients relate to me. I will not permit considerations including those based on race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, or any of the other differences among people that have been excuses for misunderstanding, dissension or hatred to influence my duty to care for those in need of my service.

I will respect the moral right of patients to participate fully in the medical decisions that affect them.

I will assist my patients to make choices that coincide with their own values and beliefs.

I will try to increase my competence constantly and respect those who teach and those who broaden our knowledge by research. I will try to prevent, as well as cure, disease. I make these promises solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.

The Regents of the University of California

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Governor of California

Eleni Kounalakis
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Josiah Beharry

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Chair of the Universitywide Academic Senate of the University of California

Ahmet Palazoglu
Vice Chair of the Universitywide Academic Senate of the University of California

This list of candidates was compiled from information available to the Office of the Chancellor and the Office of the University Registrar by the appropriate graduation filing deadlines and should not be regarded as conclusive evidence of graduation, honors or academic standing. Degrees will be awarded following certification by the chancellor, Davis Division of the Academic Senate and Office of the University Registrar that all degree requirements have been satisfied.